

SMART Business Systems

Mission

One State. One Stop.

Enable the State to emerge as a single enterprise to provide information, services, and accountability to all individuals and entities served by the State of Alabama, through the transformation of existing business systems and continuous process improvements thereafter.

Why do we need SMART Business Systems?

The State needs **SMART Business Systems** to replace archaic software systems through a planned process before a sudden failure of a core system results in the need for an emergency replacement. The new software should eliminate the need for numerous and sometimes redundant systems and spreadsheets currently used by agencies for their most basic financial/procurement/personnel/payroll needs. Other drivers for this statewide transformation include the need for true accountability and transparency.

Which entities and functions are in-scope?

SMART Business Systems will provide a system to be used by ALL State agencies, boards and commissions for financial, procurement and personnel/payroll related functions, except where a legal exception exists or the entity operates entirely outside of the State Treasury.

What are the expected benefits?

The State expects to realize efficiency improvements and other benefits such as:

- Enhanced reporting, data inquiry capabilities.
- Incorporation of nationally recognized Best Practices into business processes.
- Improved access to information for individuals and entities served by the State.
- Web-based services/information for employees, vendors and citizenry.
- Technology to support continuous improvements and innovation for the State.

What are some of the things agencies will need to do?

- Provide hardware and non-ERP software upgrades.
- Temporarily loan individuals to SMART Business Systems.
- Continue to pay allocated maintenance costs.
- Participate in advisory groups and provide project liaisons

Who can help the State prepare for the transformation?

- Sponsors – Governor and Finance Director
- Steering Committee
- Paragon Source, LLC – contract amendment required
- Program Manager and Project Managers (to be hired)
- Core Project Team members
- Advisory Groups (Interagency, External, Technology)

What is critical to our success?

Key critical success factors for SMART Business Systems are:

- Executive level support – without this, nothing else matters.
- Active participation and cooperation of State Agencies.
- Availability of knowledgeable staff.
- Sufficient State funding throughout the project's duration.